

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

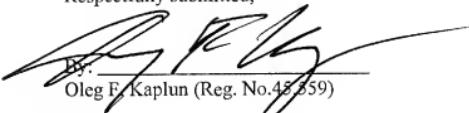
Applicant(s) : Niederberger et al.  
Serial No. : 10/721,895  
Filed : November 26, 2003  
For : Bone Plate  
Group Art Unit : 3775  
Confirmation No. : 6293  
Examiner : Michael J. Araj

Mail Stop: AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL**

Transmitted herewith please find a Response under Rule 116 to the Final Office Action mailed on March 9, 2009, a PCT Published Appln No. WO 2002/096309 of the priority PCT Appln. Serial No. PCT/CH2001/000327 and a Change of Address form for filing in the above-identified application. Since the Amendment is being filed within two months of the Final Office Action mailing date, Applicants respectfully request that the USPTO's response be issued before the expiration of the three month period of the Final Office Action mailing date (i.e., by June 9, 2009). No fees are believed to be required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional required fees to the Deposit Account of **Fay Kaplun & Marcin, LLP No. 50-1492**.

Respectfully submitted,

  
By: \_\_\_\_\_  
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